

In the Claims

Please substitute the following claims 12, 18, 23 and 28 for the claims 12, 18, 23 and 28 now pending in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the insulin sensitizer is pioglitazone hydrochloride.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the acidosis is diabetic acidosis.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the acidosis is acidosis caused by a biguanide.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 which is for ~~preventing or~~ treating disturbance of consciousness, coma or respiratory diseases.

Claims 13-15 (Cancelled)

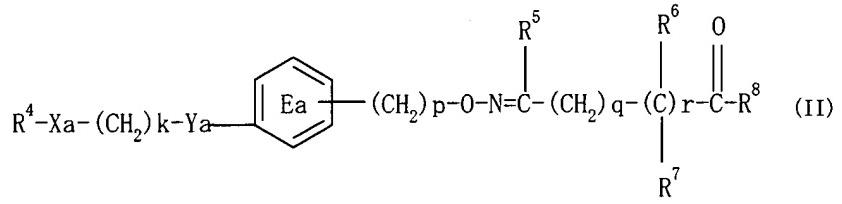
16. (Previously Presented) A method for improving or treating acidosis in a mammal in need thereof which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of an insulin sensitizer in combination with insulin.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) **Method A method** for improving or treating acidosis in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal an effective amount of an insulin sensitizer **selected from the group consisting of**

1) pioglitazone or a salt thereof;

2) a compound of the formula:



wherein R⁴ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted;

Xa represents a chemical bond, a group of the formula -CO-, -CH(OH)-, or -NR⁹- where R⁹ represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted;

k is an integer of 1 to 3;

Ya represents oxygen atom, sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO₂-, or -NR¹⁰- where R¹⁰ represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted;

ring Ea represents a benzene ring that may have further 1 to 3 substituents;

p is an integer of 1 to 8;

R⁵ represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted;

q is an integer of 0 to 6;

r is 0 or 1;

R⁸ represents hydroxy, -OR¹¹ where R¹¹ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or -NR¹²R¹³ where R¹² and R¹³ are the same

or different, and represent hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, a heterocyclic group that may be substituted, or an acyl group that may be substituted, or R¹² and R¹³ may be combined to form a ring;

R⁶ and R⁷ are the same or different, and represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or R⁶ and R⁵ may be combined to form a ring;

or a salt thereof;

3) 5-[[6-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)-2-naphthyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione;

4) FK-614;

5) CS-011;

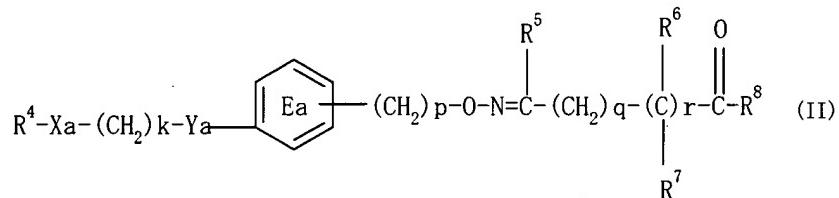
6) NN-2344; and

7) BM-13-1258.

Claims 19-22 (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the insulin sensitizer is selected from the group consisting of

- 1) pioglitazone or a salt thereof,
- 2) a compound of the formula:



wherein R⁴ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted;

Xa represents a chemical bond, a group of the formula -CO-, -CH(OH)-, or -NR⁹- where R⁹ represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted;

k is an integer of 1 to 3;

Ya represents oxygen atom, sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO₂-, or -NR¹⁰- where R¹⁰

represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted;

ring Ea represents a benzene ring that may have further 1 to 3 substituents;

p is an integer of 1 to 8;

R⁵ represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted;

q is an integer of 0 to 6;

r is 0 or 1;

R⁸ represents hydroxy, -OR¹¹ where R¹¹ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or -NR¹²R¹³ where R¹² and R¹³ are the same or different, and represent hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, a heterocyclic group that may be substituted, or an acyl group that may be substituted, or R¹² and R¹³ may be combined to form a ring;

R⁶ and R⁷ are the same or different, and represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or R⁶ and R⁵ may be combined to form a ring;

or a salt thereof;

3) 5-[[6-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)-2-naphthyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione;

4) FK-614; **and**

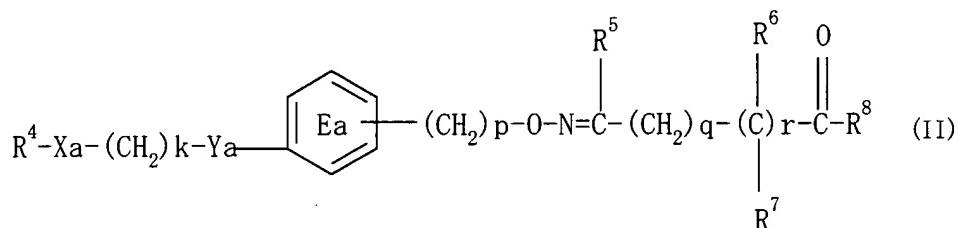
5) **KRP-297 CS-011;**

6) **NN-2344; and**

7) **BM-13-1258.**

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the insulin sensitizer is pioglitazone hydrochloride.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the insulin sensitizer is a compound of the formula:



wherein R⁴ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; Xa represents a chemical bond, a group of the formula -CO-, -CH(OH)-, or -NR⁹- where R⁹ represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; k is an integer of 1 to 3; Ya represents oxygen atom, sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO₂-, or -NR¹⁰- where R¹⁰ represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; ring Ea represents a benzene ring that may have further 1 to 3 substituents; p is an integer of 1 to 8; R⁵ represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; q is an integer of 0 to 6; r is 0 or 1; R⁸ represents hydroxy, -OR¹¹ where R¹¹ represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or -NR¹²R¹³ where R¹² and R¹³ are the same or different, and represent hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, a heterocyclic group that may be substituted, or an acyl group that may be substituted, or R¹² and R¹³ may be combined to form a ring; R⁶ and R⁷ are

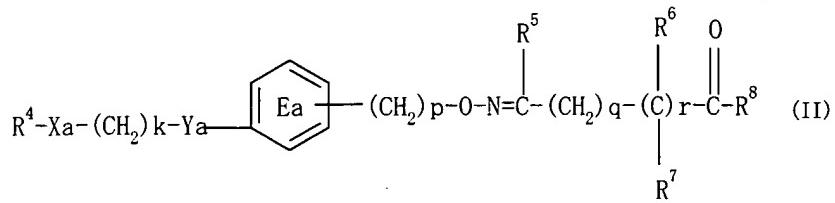
the same or different, and represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or R⁶ and R⁵ may be combined to form a ring; or a salt thereof.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the compound is
Z-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-2-phenylacetic acid;
Z-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyric acid;
Z-2-(4-bromophenyl)-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]acetic acid;
Z-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)acetic acid;
Z-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;
Z-3-methyl-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;
E-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyric acid;
E-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;
E-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyramide; or
E-8-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-8-phenyloctanoic acid.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 which is for treating disturbance of consciousness, coma or respiratory distress.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18 wherein the insulin sensitizer is selected from the group consisting of
1) pioglitazone or a salt thereof,

2) a compound of the formula:



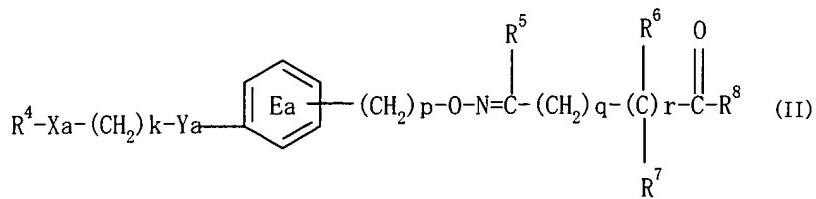
wherein R^4 represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; X_a represents a chemical bond, a group of the formula -CO-, -CH(OH)-, or -NR⁹- where R^9 represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; k is an integer of 1 to 3; Y_a represents oxygen atom, sulfur atom, -SO-, -SO₂-, or -NR¹⁰- where R^{10} represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; ring Ea represents a benzene ring that may have further 1 to 3 substituents; p is an integer of 1 to 8; R^5 represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; q is an integer of 0 to 6; r is 0 or 1; R^8 represents hydroxy, -OR¹¹ where R^{11} represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or -NR¹²R¹³ where R^{12} and R^{13} are the same or different, and represent hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, a heterocyclic group that may be substituted, or an acyl group that may be substituted, or R^{12} and R^{13} may be combined to form a ring; R^6 and R^7 are the same or different, and represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or R^6 and R^5 may be combined to form a ring; or a salt thereof;

3) 5-[[6-(2-fluorobenzyloxy)-2-naphthyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione; **and**

4) FK-614; **and**

5) **KRP-297.**

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the insulin sensitizer is a compound of the formula:



wherein R^4 represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; Xa represents a chemical bond, a group of the formula $-CO-$, $-CH(OH)-$, or $-NR^9-$ where R^9 represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; k is an integer of 1 to 3; Ya represents oxygen atom, sulfur atom, $-SO-$, $-SO_2-$, or $-NR^{10}-$ where R^{10} represents hydrogen or an alkyl group that may be substituted; ring Ea represents a benzene ring that may have further 1 to 3 substituents; p is an integer of 1 to 8; R^5 represents hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or a heterocyclic group that may be substituted; q is an integer of 0 to 6; r is 0 or 1; R^8 represents hydroxy, $-OR^{11}$ where R^{11} represents a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ where R^{12} and R^{13} are the same or different, and represent hydrogen, a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, a heterocyclic group that may be substituted, or an acyl group that may be substituted, or R^{12} and R^{13} may be combined to form a ring; R^6 and R^7 are the same or different, and represent hydrogen or a hydrocarbon group that may be substituted, or R^6 and R^5 may be combined to form a ring; or a salt thereof.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the compound is
 Z -2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-2-phenylacetic acid;
 Z -4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyric acid;
 Z -2-(4-bromophenyl)-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]acetic acid;
 Z -2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)acetic acid;

Z -4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;

Z-3-methyl-2-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;
E-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyric acid;
E-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]butyric acid;
E-4-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-4-phenylbutyramide; or
E-8-[4-(5-methyl-2-phenyl-4-oxazolylmethoxy)benzyloxyimino]-8-phenyloctanoic acid.